

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 03/08/11 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 10-28, 30-45 are allowed in view of amendments and Applicant's arguments (pages 15-16 of Applicant's Remarks). Particularly, the prior art of record fails to disclose or fairly suggest a system or method "...receiving, at the viewer input device, an unblocking criterion for unblocking a television program that meets the blocking criterion to permit, without providing the password, access to the blocked program by the user in the first mode of operation if the blocked program meets the unblocking criterion, wherein the unblocking criterion unblocks the television program based on the content of the television program without uniquely identifying the television program; and in the master mode, for a second mode of operation different from the master mode and the first mode: allowing the selection, at the viewer input device, of one or more programs based on titles of the programs for access by a user in the second mode of operation, and a processor permitting only the selected programs to be accessed in the second mode without providing the password, to the exclusion of

all other programs being telecast." as similarly recited in combination with other features with respect to independent claims 1, 27, 31, 33, 34, 36, 38 and 39.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Casement et al (6,144,401) disclose TV schedule system with access control.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **ANNAN Q. SHANG** whose telephone number is **(571)272-7355**. **The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am-4:00pm.**

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher S. Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Art Unit: 2424

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the **Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.**

/Annan Q Shang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2424

Annan Q. Shang